

**Land South of 6 Gowlands Terrace,
Barrhill, South Ayrshire:
Archaeological Mitigation**

Data Structure Report

by Claire Williamson

issued 19th October 2011



Rathmell

Archaeology Ltd

Quality Assurance

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Signed

Date

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Checked

Date

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Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared for Nicoll Design on behalf of Mr Adrian Goodall in respect to the residential development on Land South of 6 Gowlands Terrace, Barrhill, South Ayrshire. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.
2. South Ayrshire Council required a programme of archaeological works to be undertaken as a requirement of the issued planning consent (08/01548/FUL). The character of these works was defined by the West of Scotland Archaeology Service who advise South Ayrshire Council on archaeological matters, and their structure has been outlined in a Written Scheme of Investigation (Rees 2011).
3. Rathmell Archaeology Limited has been appointed by Nicoll Design on behalf of Mr Adrian Goodall to undertake the development and implementation of archaeological mitigation works during the initial stages of the development works at Land South of 6 Gowlands Terrace, South Ayrshire.

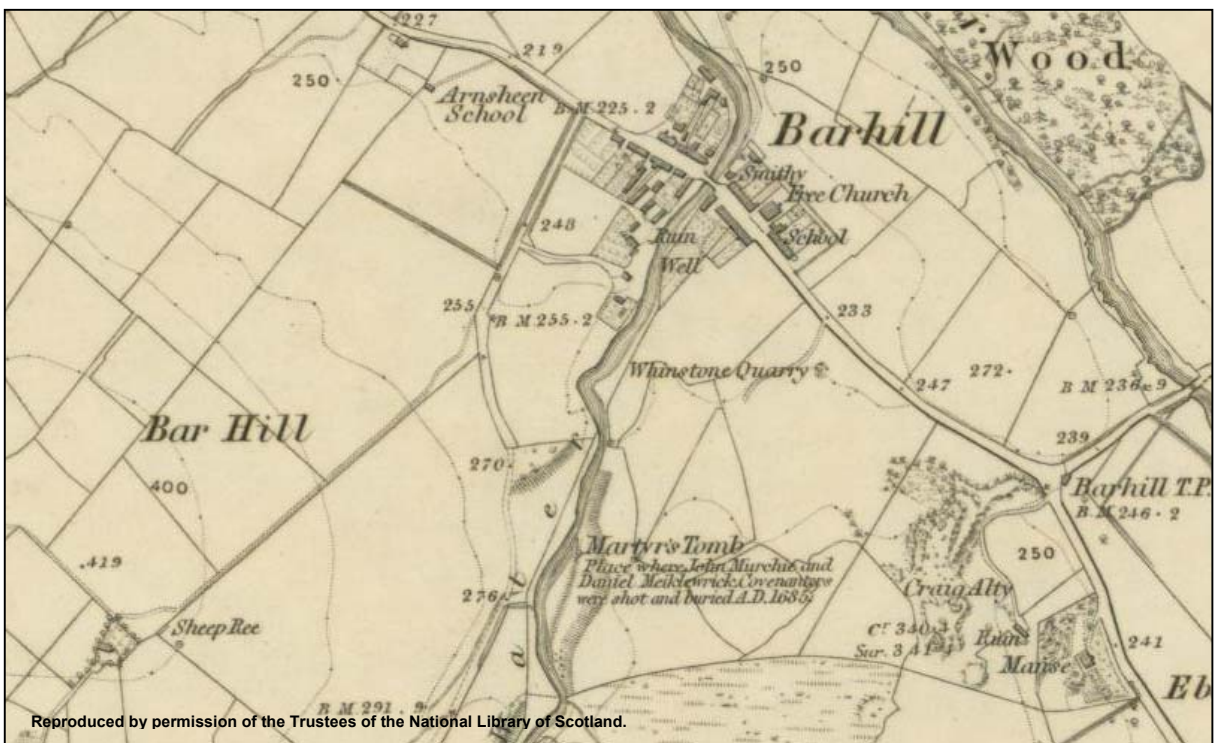
Archaeological and Historical Background

4. The development area lies on ground to the south of 6 Gowlands Terrace, Barrhill. To the west of the ground is a minor road running southwest from Barrhill to New Luce while to the east is the Cross Water which flows through Barrhill before joining the Duisk River.
5. This ground does not, according to the West of Scotland Archaeology Service and Royal Commission on the Ancient & Historical Monuments of Scotland, contain any known archaeological sites, designated or unprotected.
6. A review of the available historical mapping has shown that in the mid 18th century, when recorded by Roy's Military Survey of Scotland (1747-55), the proposed development area is marked as unused hill ground (see Figure 1a) lying to the west of the Cross Water. The first viable 19th century mapping is the First Edition Ordnance Survey (1857, Figure 1b), which shows the ground has been enclosed and two buildings are depicted in the far east of the ground within an area of garden next to the Cross Water. This is the only potential archaeological site identified by the desk-assessment and is probably an early 19th century structure. The building is not present on the subsequent 2nd edition Ordnance Survey (1897).
7. The sinuous nature of the Cross Water on the 18th century mapping compared to the 19th century suggests some level of canalisation of this watercourse took place. Given the bluff overlooking the water at the eastern limit of the development site, it is unlikely this realignment has impacted on the study area.



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Figure 1a: Roy's Military Map 1747-55



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Figure 1b: First edition Ordnance Survey published 1857

Project Works

8. A programme of works was undertaken on the 13th October 2011 which included an archaeological evaluation through machine cut trenches designed to sample 8% of the available ground within the proposed development area.
9. Prior to the commencement of works certain sections of the development area were excluded from the evaluation (Rees 2011). Previous soils testing by Simpson Mining & Geotechnical Ltd in 2009 identified a peat basin of at least 0.7m depth suffering from heavy waterlogging in the northwest corner of the development area. This correlates with a hollow, mapped by the topographic survey of the site (see Figure 2 basemap). This area was excluded as it was not feasible to cut trenches at this location. However, Trench 2 was placed so that it would cut into the margins of the peat area in order to give some indication of its depth and character at the outer edges of the hollow.
10. The eastern side of the site had severe slopes that prevented safe machine work, indeed the north-east corner had also been quarried in recent years, hence this ground was also excluded (see Figure 2 basemap).
11. After these exclusions the total area available for sampling during the evaluation measured some 0.62 ha in extent which, at 8%, gave a minimum target of 500m² of trenching.
12. The presence of overhead powerlines crossing the site further affected the layout of trenching with a 5-10m clearance required for health and safety reasons although the target sample area was still achieved.
13. Initially the trenches were to be excavated using a 2m wide bucket. When on site however, the width of the bucket actually measured 1.8m across so the trenches had to be excavated by way of two scoops side by side meaning that the trenches measured between 2.2 to 2.4m wide. As such the total area excavated measured 566m², slightly exceeding the 8%.
14. Any exposed features were investigated and evaluated to determine their archaeological significance. All works were conducted in accordance with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service Standard Conditions, the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Scotland Policy Statements.

Findings

15. Eight evaluation trenches were opened across the development area (Figure 2). Full descriptions of each are contained in the appendices at the end of this report. Included below is a synthesis of the findings and interpretation from these.
16. The topsoil across the site (001) ranged between 200 to 350mm in depth. All of the trenches were excavated down to the top of the underlying subsoil to allow for examination of any surviving archaeological features. The natural subsoil was predominantly a mixture of sand and gravel (003)/ (006)/ (009)/ (010)/ (011) although a clay subsoil (002)/ (005)/ (008) was also present in some areas. In many of the trenches areas of manganese-like deposits (003) were also present.
17. The northeast end of Trench 2, which ran into the margins of the northwest peat area, exposed the peat (007) to be approximately 200 to 400mm in depth running approximately 9m into the trench. This end of the trench and the northeast end of Trench 1 were also affected by waterlogging.

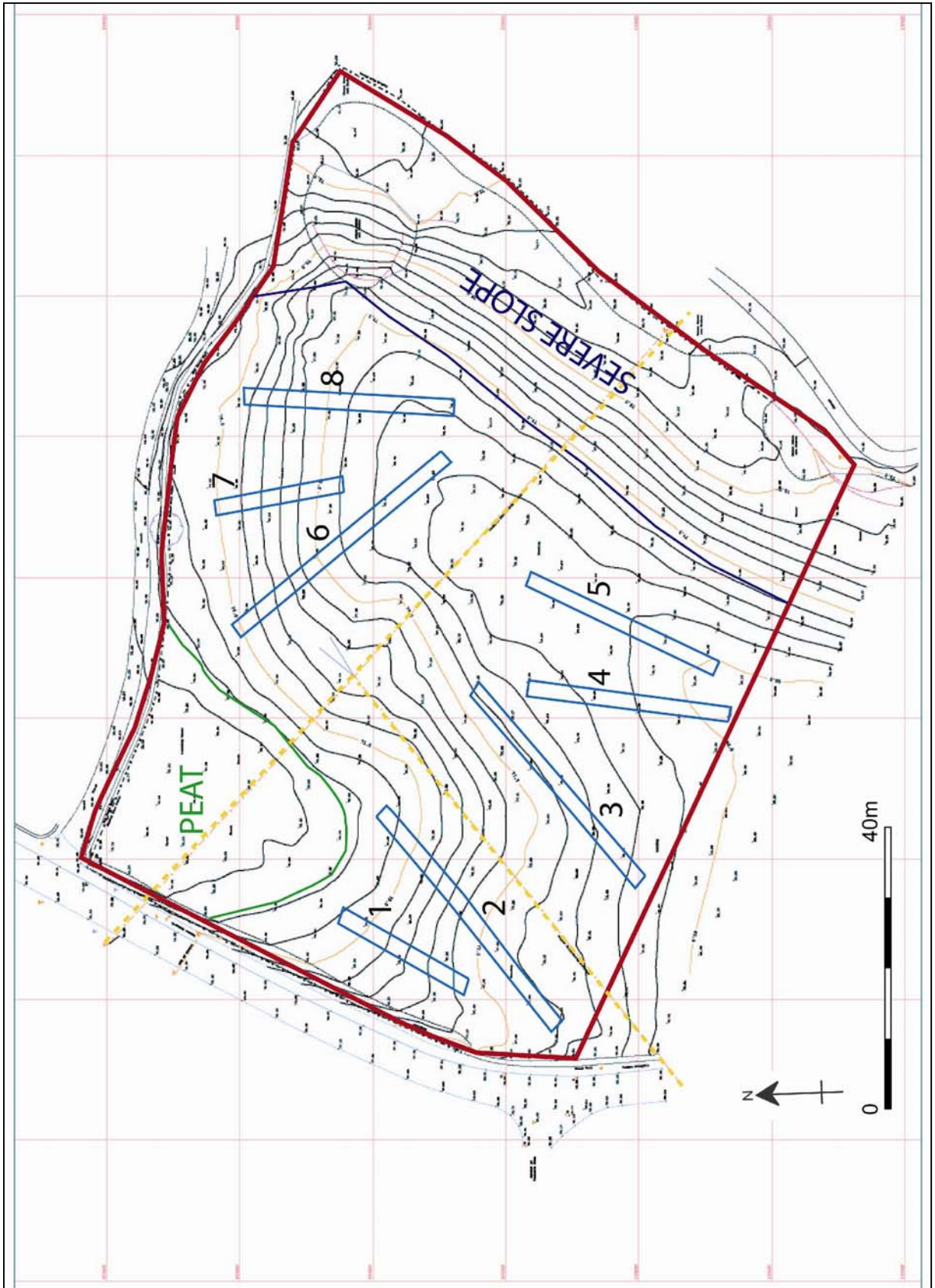


Figure 2: Trench Layout - trenches depicted in blue; overhead lines are broken orange lines



Figure 3a: General shot of site from the northeast with Trenches 3, 4 and 5



Figure 3b: General shot of site from the east-south-east with Trenches 1 and 2

Significant Archaeological features

18. No significant archaeological features were observed during the course of the evaluation works.

Artefacts

19. No artefacts were recovered during the evaluation although modern detritus (late nineteenth and twentieth century material) was observed within the topsoil in most trenches.

Modern Disturbance

20. Trench 1 exhibited modern disturbance in the form of a field drain. Sitting in its northeast half, a rubble field drain was exposed running SW-NE measuring 400mm in width. No field drains were present within the rest of the trenches.

Discussion

21. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were uncovered during the course of the archaeological works. The only feature uncovered was a rubble field drain (004) in Trench 1 along the western edge of the site. The site also showed no evidence of ploughsoil or ploughmarks.
22. As mentioned above some portions of the site were excluded from the works, although the evaluation did manage to cover the majority of the development area including the higher portions of ground. As such, while the excluded portions still have some limited potential for surviving archaeological remains to be present, the lack of any significant features or artefacts within the trenching suggests that, on balance, there is no credible potential for significant archaeological remains to be found.

Recommendations

23. The archaeological evaluation failed to identify any significant archaeological remains within the development area and the only anthropic material observed suggested modern (19th and 20th century) use of the site.
24. On balance, given the lack of significant archaeological material recovered in the course of the evaluation works, Rathmell Archaeology Ltd recommends that no further archaeological work be carried out within this development area. While we recognise that there is still the potential for features underlying the peat in the northwest corner, the absolute absence of significant material and features in all other aspects of the evaluation suggests that there is no credible potential for remains surviving here.
25. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with South Ayrshire Council and their advisors, West of Scotland Archaeology Service.



Figure 4a: Trench 1 from the southwest



Figure 4b: Trench 2 from the east-north-east



Figure 5a: Trench 5 from the northeast



Figure 5b: Trench 7 from the north

Conclusion

26. This Data Structure Report has outlined the work carried out during the archaeological evaluation in respect to the residential development on Land South of 6 Gowlands Terrace, Barrhill, South Ayrshire. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.
27. The archaeological evaluation works uncovered no significant archaeological deposits and no anthropic material other than that which related to nineteenth and twentieth century use of the site. Even though some portions of the development area were excluded from the evaluation works, it is thought that the lack of archaeological evidence within the area evaluated suggests that there is no credible potential for remains to be surviving within the excluded areas. We have therefore recommended that no further works are required.

References

Documentary

- | | | |
|---------|------|---|
| Rees, T | 2009 | <i>Land South of 6 Gowlands Terrace, Barrhill, South Ayrshire: Archaeological Mitigation: Written Scheme of Investigation</i> , unpublished commercial report by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd for Adrian Goodall. |
|---------|------|---|

Cartographic

- | | | |
|---------|-----------------|---|
| 1747-55 | Roy | Military Survey of Scotland |
| 1857 | Ordnance Survey | 1 st edition Ordnance Survey |
| 1897 | Ordnance Survey | 2 nd edition Ordnance Survey |

Appendix 1: Trench Details

Within this appendix a standardised set of data pertaining to the evaluation trenches is presented.

All measurement distances quoted along the trench measure based on the quoted orientation of the trench. See Figure 2 for trench locations.

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
1	Southwest to Northeast	2.4m by 21.8m 52.32m ²	300 to 350mm	Light brown sandy clay (002) present until +14.1m before changing to mid to dark grey sandy gravel (006) with an area of very pale grey sandy clay (005) present until +15.7m along one side.	Rubble field drain (004) running SW-NE starting at +12.2m until the end of the trench.	None	None
2	Northeast to Southwest	2.2m by 40m 88m ²	250 to 280mm	Dark brown peat (007) present until +4.7m before changing to mottled pale grey/yellow/brown silty clay (008). At +10.3m changes to pale brown clayey gravelly sand (009) until +18.7m where it changes to orange and red brown sandy gravel (010). At +35.3 becomes very pale grey sandy clay (005) before changing back to (007) at +38.5m.	None	None	None
3	Southwest to Northeast	2.4m by 36.8m 88.32m ²	200 to 300mm	Orange and red brown sandy gravel (010) present until +30m before changing to mottled pale grey/yellow/brown silty clay (008). At +32.5 changes back to (010).	None	None	None
4	North-north-east to South-south-west	2.2m by 30.6m 67.32m ²	270 to 300mm	Orange and red brown sandy gravel (010) present until +27.8m before changing to very pale grey sandy clay (005).	None	None	None
5	Northeast to Southwest	2.2m by 30.4m 66.88m ²	230 to 300mm	Light brown sandy clay (002) present until +3.8m before changing to orange and red brown sandy gravel (010). At +10.3m this then changes	None	None	None

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
				back to (002) until +12.3m where it then becomes (010) again for the rest of the trench with an area of red brown and grey fine gravel (011) present at +18m.			
6	Northwest to Southeast	2.2m by 40.5m 81m ²	260 to 300mm	Orange and red brown sandy gravel (010) present until +2.8m before changing to red brown and grey fine gravel (011) until +9.4m. At this point changes to light brown sandy clay (002) before changing back to (010) at +13.7m.	None	None	None
7	South-south-east to North-north-west	2.2m by 19.3m 42.46m ²	280 to 300mm	Orange and red brown sandy gravel (010) present until +5m before changing to mottled pale grey/yellow/brown silty clay (008). This was present until +8m before changing back to (010) with an area of light brown sandy clay (002) present at +17m.	None	None	None
8	North to South	2.3m by 31.5m 72.45m ²	200 to 250mm	Orange and red brown sandy gravel (010) with an area of mottled pale grey/yellow/brown silty clay (008) present at +10.9m until +13.3m.	None	None	None

Appendix 2: Registers

Within this appendix are all registers pertaining to works on-site during the evaluation.

Context Register

Context No.	Area/Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	All	Topsoil	Moderately compact mid brown silty clay with frequent rootlets and small stones. Occasional fragments of white glaze 20 th century pottery.	Topsoil
002	1,5,7	Subsoil	Moderately compact light brown sandy clay with frequent small to medium sized gravel inclusions.	Natural subsoil
003	1,2,8	Deposit	Loose dark red brown sandy gravel.	Manganese-like deposits within subsoil
004	1	Feature	Linear rubble field drain running SW-NE. 400mm wide.	Rubble field drain
005	1,2,4,6	Subsoil	Moderately compact very pale grey sandy clay with frequent small to medium sized gravel inclusions.	Natural subsoil
006	1	Subsoil	Moderately compact mid to dark grey sandy gravel.	Natural subsoil
007	2	Deposit	Compact dark brown peat.	Peat deposit
008	2,3,6,7,8	Subsoil	Moderately compact mottled pale grey/yellow/brown silty clay with frequent stone inclusions.	Natural subsoil
009	2	Subsoil	Loose pale brown clayey gravelly sand.	Natural subsoil
010	2-8	Subsoil	Loose orange and red brown sandy gravel.	Natural subsoil
011	5,6	Subsoil	Loose red brown and grey fine gravel.	Natural subsoil

Photographic Register

Image No.	Print		Slide		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No.	Neg. No.	Film No.	Neg. No.				
1	1	1	1	14	1	General pre ex of site	W	13/10/11

Image No.	Print		Slide		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No.	Neg. No.	Film No.	Neg. No.				
2	1	2	1	15	2	General shot of NW corner (peat area)	SSW	13/10/11
3	1	3	-	-	3	General pre ex of site	SSW	13/10/11
4	1	4	1	16	4	General shot of sloping ground along E side	WSW	13/10/11
5	1	5	1	17	5	General pre ex of site	ESE	13/10/11
6	1	6	-	-	6	General pre ex of site	ENE	13/10/11
7	1	7	1	18	7	Trench 1	SW	13/10/11
8	-	-	-	-	8	Trench 1	SW	13/10/11
9	1	8	-	-	9	Trench 2	WSW	13/10/11
10	-	-	-	-	10	Trench 2	WSW	13/10/11
11	1	9	-	-	11	Trench 2	ENE	13/10/11
12	1	10	-	-	12	Trench 6	NW	13/10/11
13	1	11	1	19	13	Trench 7	N	13/10/11
14	-	-	-	-	14	Trench 7	N	13/10/11
15	1	12	-	-	15	Trench 8	N	13/10/11
16	1	13	-	-	16	Trench 8	S	13/10/11
17	-	-	-	-	17	Trench 8	S	13/10/11
18	1	14	-	-	18	Trench 6	SE	13/10/11
19	1	15	-	-	19	Trench 5	NE	13/10/11
20	-	-	-	-	20	Trench 5	NE	13/10/11
21	1	16	-	-	21	Trench 4	NNE	13/10/11
22	-	-	-	-	22	Trench 4	NNE	13/10/11
23	-	-	-	-	23	Working shot	ENE	13/10/11
24	1	17	1	20	24	Trench 3	NE	13/10/11

Image No.	Print		Slide		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No.	Neg. No.	Film No.	Neg. No.				
25	-	-	-	-	25	Trench 3	NE	13/10/11
26	1	18	1	21	26	Post ex of site (Trenches 3-5)	NE	13/10/11
27	1	19	1	22	27	Post ex of site (Trenches 1-2)	ESE	13/10/11
28	1	20	-	-	28	Post ex of site (Trenches 6-8)	NE	13/10/11
29	1	21	-	-	29	Post ex of site (Trenches 6-8)	NW	13/10/11
30	1	22	-	-	30	Post ex of site (Trenches 1-3)	NE	13/10/11

Drawing Register

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Area/ Trench	Drawing Type	Scale	Description	Drawer	Date
1	1	1	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 1	CW	13/10/11
2	1	2	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 2	CW	13/10/11
3	1	6	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 6	CW	13/10/11
4	1	7	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 7	CW	13/10/11
5	1	8	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 8	CW	13/10/11
6	1	5	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 5	CW	13/10/11
7	1	4	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 4	DG	13/10/11
8	1	3	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 3	DG	13/10/11

Appendix 3: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	South Lanarkshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Land South of 6 Gowlands Terrace, Barrhill, South Ayrshire
PROJECT CODE:	RA11056
PARISH:	Colmonell
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Claire Williamson
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NX 23225 82149 (centred on)
START DATE (this season)	13 th October 2011
END DATE (this season)	13 th October 2011
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	<p>This Data Structure Report has outlined the work carried out during the archaeological evaluation in respect to the residential development on Land South of 6 Gowlands Terrace, Barrhill, South Ayrshire. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.</p> <p>The archaeological evaluation works uncovered no significant archaeological deposits and no anthropic material other than that which related to nineteenth and twentieth century use of the site. Even though some portions of the development area were excluded from the evaluation works, it is thought that the lack of archaeological evidence within the area evaluated suggests that there is no credible potential for remains to be surviving within the excluded areas. We have therefore recommended that no further works are required.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr Adrian Goodall
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Report to West of Scotland Archaeology Service and archive to RCAHMS Collections.

Contact Details

28. Rathmell Archaeology can be contacted at our Registered Office or through the web:
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